



National Service in Connecticut



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN CONNECTICUT

More than 3,500 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through national service in Connecticut. Serving at more than 520 locations throughout the state, these citizens tutor and mentor children, support veterans and military families, provide health services, restore the environment, respond to disasters, increase economic opportunity, and recruit and manage volunteers.

This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will commit more than \$10,720,000 to support Connecticut communities through national service initiatives. CNCS invests in cost-effective community solutions--working hand in hand with local partners to improve lives, expand economic opportunity, and engage citizens in solving problems in their communities. Serving in many of the state's most impoverished communities, CNCS provides vital support to schools, food banks, homeless shelters, community health clinics, youth centers, veterans service facilities, and other nonprofit and faith-based organizations at a time of growing demand for services. Through a unique public-private partnership, this federal investment will leverage an additional \$3,120,000 in other resources to strengthen community impact, build local support, and increase return on taxpayer dollars.

AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than 750 individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across Connecticut. Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the Connecticut Commission on Community Service, which in turn awards grants to nonprofit groups to respond to local needs. Most of the remainder of the grant funding is distributed by CNCS directly to multi-state and national organizations through a competitive grants process. Other individuals serve through AmeriCorps VISTA, whose members help bring individuals and communities out of poverty by serving full-time to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, and increase housing opportunities, and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a 10-month, full time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994, more than 12,000 Connecticut residents have served more than 17 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$38,980,000.

Senior Corps: More than 2,700 seniors in Connecticut contribute their time and talents in one of three Senior Corps programs. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to more than 1,300 young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 230 homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols, renovate homes, protect the environment, tutor and mentor youth, respond to natural disasters, and provide other services through more than 160 groups across Connecticut.

Social Innovation Fund: The Social Innovation Fund transforms lives and communities using limited federal investment as a catalyst to grow the impact of nonprofits with evidence of strong results. It harnesses the expertise of grantmaking intermediaries to identify, evaluate and expand effective nonprofits and engages funding partners to contribute nearly three dollars to every one federal dollar invested. As the Social Innovation Fund network grows programs that work in Connecticut, more people are able to overcome their most pressing challenges in the areas of economic opportunity, health, and youth development. The Social Innovation Fund is investing more than \$380,000 in expanding the impact of 2 nonprofits in Connecticut.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. CNCS annually engages more than five million Americans in service to meet local needs through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and national days of service; improves communities through the Social Innovation Fund, and leads President Obama's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. To learn more visit NationalService.gov or Serve.gov or call 202-606-5000 or TTY 1-800-833-3722.

Connecticut At a Glance

AmeriCorps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants ¹	Education Scholarships ²	Program Funding
AmeriCorps National	15	43	269	\$1,071,207	\$1,120,032 ³
AmeriCorps State Competitive	4	119	273	\$1,541,085	\$972,219
AmeriCorps State Formula	4	24	168	\$325,021	\$754,920
AmeriCorps VISTA	6	40	44	\$248,890	\$715,880
AMERICORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	29	226	754	\$3,186,203	\$3,563,051
Senior Corps	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Foster Grandparent Program	5	100	600	-	\$1,948,835
RSVP	8	168	1,980	-	\$595,839
Senior Companion Program	2	31	204	-	\$663,370
Senior Demonstration Program	1	-	-	-	-
SENIOR CORPS TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	16	299	2,784	-	\$3,208,044
Social Innovation Fund	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Nonprofit Subgrantees	2	-	-	-	\$387,236
SOCIAL INNOVATION FUND TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	2	-	-	-	\$387,236
Other Funding	Projects	Service Locations	Participants	Education Scholarships	Program Funding
Martin Luther King Day	1	-	-	-	\$129,000
State Commission Operations Support	1	-	-	-	\$250,000
OTHER FUNDING TOTAL (Current Projects Only)	2	-	-	-	\$379,000
PROGRAM TOTALS	49	525 ⁴	3,538	\$3,186,203	\$7,537,331
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING (including Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards)					\$10,723,534
TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT (Non-CNCS Resources)					\$3,125,113 ⁵
TOTAL CNCS FUNDING + TOTAL LOCAL PROGRAM SUPPORT					\$13,848,647

- Notes: The data shown represents a snapshot in time. CNCS project sites, participants, and funding change throughout the year, so the data may not reflect current conditions.
- This figure represents the number of awarded positions available to be filled in the 2014 - 2015 program year. For AmeriCorps VISTA, this represents the actual number of VISTA members in active service.
 - This figure represents the maximum potential value of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards that can be earned by AmeriCorps members serving in Connecticut. The award can be used in any state to pay for college, graduate school, vocational training, or to pay back student loans. The education award total is included in total CNCS funding.
 - AmeriCorps National figures may include national programs headquartered in the state and/or operating sites of national programs that are headquartered in other states. Funding reflects the estimated proportionate share of the national grant associated with operating sites in this report. Some national organizations do not report operating site data, or it was not available at time of publishing, so figures may not reflect current conditions.
 - The service location total may contain multiple counts of unique locations where multiple CNCS programs are operating.
 - As part of its public-private partnership approach, CNCS requires grantees to leverage additional resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on the federal investment. This figure reflects non-CNCS cash and in-kind resources that CNCS grantees and project sponsors have committed to raise to support their programming activities across the state.



Since 1994, more than 12,000 Connecticut residents have served more than 17 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$38,980,000.

AmeriCorps State

The Connecticut Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Network AmeriCorps program engages middle and high school students in the Youth Health Service Corps and college students in the Collegiate Health Service Corps, leading students in service learning projects that address pressing community health issues. The AmeriCorps members aim to improve academic engagement of economically disadvantaged students through participation in service learning programs and health workshops. The four regional centers of the Connecticut AHEC Network host full-time AmeriCorps members impacting communities across the entire state of Connecticut. The program will increase AmeriCorps members' educational and professional status by providing a vast amount of experience working with schools, nonprofits, health care agencies and other community partners.

FoodCorps recruits, trains, and places emerging leaders into limited-resource schools for a year of service implementing a three-ingredient recipe for healthy kids: 1) hands on food and nutrition education, 2) experiential education in school gardens and through cooking lessons, and 3) healthy food access in cafeterias. FoodCorps AmeriCorps members are based in some of the highest need school districts and work side-by-side with committed teachers, school administrators, food service directors, and community-based organizations to help improve school food environments. The 15 communities and school districts selected for FoodCorps CT were chosen based on eligibility rates for free and reduced priced school lunch, and the capacity to supervise and make effective use of a FoodCorps AmeriCorps member. In order to carry out their terms of service, AmeriCorps members will acquire training in experiential education of nutrition and gardening, building classroom management, volunteer management, community engagement, and safe food preparation. Project impacts are carefully tracked, including gardens built, children reached, pounds of produce harvested, and volunteers mobilized.

AmeriCorps VISTA

AmeriCorps VISTA members serving at Journey Home in Hartford have played a critical role in the successful development and launch of an online Universal Housing Application, now being utilized by 25 shelter, housing, and healthcare agencies in the Greater Hartford area. The Universal Housing Application allows a household living in a homeless shelter or other temporary living situation to submit one application to apply to, and assess eligibility for, 33 different housing programs for the homeless across the community. AmeriCorps VISTA members worked with Journey Home staff and the database vendor to develop the online application, test it, train users to work with clients to submit applications through the system, and develop administrative materials to ensure the sustainability and evaluation of the project. While the application is still in the process of ramping up to its maximum usage, it is estimated to eventually result in a smoother, quicker transition to housing for as many as 3,000 individuals who experience homelessness each year in Greater Hartford.

The Connecticut Food Justice Youth Corps VISTA Project has placed 13 AmeriCorps VISTA members at eight community-based organizations in cities and towns throughout central and eastern Connecticut, all with a common goal of developing youth leadership programs to educate and empower opportunity youth about food access and food justice issues. Since the first VISTAs began service in August 2013, VISTA members have supported 75 distinct youth leaders and their respective host sites by developing seven social and food justice curricula, creating 20 events, and raising \$14,000 in cash and in-kind donations. In addition, VISTA members recruited more than 200 volunteers to support the project.

AmeriCorps NCCC

The mission of Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA) is to protect forests, parks, walking trails, and open spaces for future generations by connecting people to the land. CFPA directly involves individuals and families, educators, community leaders, and volunteers to enhance and defend Connecticut's rich natural heritage. The AmeriCorps NCCC members assisted in building a 6-mile trail that will connect across wild and pristine watershed lands that have not been previously open to the public. This work included clearing brush, constructing water crossings, defining trail tread, building a full-bench trail, installing erosion control structures and trail signage, and blazing the trail. The new 6-mile trail connects the Wyantenock State Forest to Shepaug Reservoir lands and north to the Mohawk State Forest. By building this new trail, hikers, walkers, birders, school groups, trail runners and others will have the opportunity to access this diverse and wild area thereby aiding CFPA accomplish its mission of connecting people to the land so they may develop a relationship and appreciation for the outdoors.

The Torrington Area Health District Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is dedicated to improving public awareness in the areas of CPR, heart healthy living skills, and emergency preparedness. The overarching mission of the MRC is to engage volunteers to strengthen public health, emergency response and community resiliency. AmeriCorps NCCC members assisted six land and trust organizations throughout Northwestern CT, by working on existing trails, blazing new trails, removing invasive species, repairing bridges, building board walks, and helping to improve the hiking trails in a number of area preserves. Additionally, they learned and presented the MRC*B*Fit and MRC*B*Ready nutrition education and community preparedness curriculums to summer camps within the Northwestern corner of Connecticut. The work the team accomplished will assist the Torrington Area Health District's MRC to build infrastructure and provide community preparedness education. The land trust storm mitigation and trail blazing will allow for improved access to trails for hikers and emergency responders.

Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

Through a partnership with the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County, the Bridgeport Foster Grandparent Program, sponsored by the Child and Family Guidance Center, assigned 25 Foster Grandparents to five Schools of Hope, an initiative designed to improve the educational success of students at select schools in Fairfield County. Foster Grandparents support a multi-faceted program that provides individual support to struggling students, ensures that students have books in the home, and engages parents in literacy skill-building activities with their children. Foster Grandparents receive training in literacy skills with the goal of ensuring that all students are reading at grade level by the third grade. More than 1,000 students have received services through Schools of Hope since it began. A recent evaluation of the program reported that the percentage of students at or above proficiency increased from 58 percent to 72 percent in the targeted schools over a five-year period.

Senior Corps RSVP

Fifty RSVP volunteers serving with the Greater Hartford RSVP project tutored 55 second and third grade students in five public schools during the 2013-2014 school year as part of the America Reads program. Tutors spent one hour a week with each child from October to May. Pre- and post-tests using the Fountas and Pinell Benchmark Assessment System showed that at the end of the school year, 89 percent students had improved their reading scores by at least two reading levels.

Senior Corps Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program sponsored by the Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut in New Haven has developed a program called "Follow Me Home," designed to assign Senior Companions to frail elderly patients who are returning home upon discharge from a hospitalization. The program was developed in response to a study by the Center for Medicaid and Medicaid Services that showed older hospital patients have a 20 percent readmission rate within the first 30 days after discharge from a hospitalization. The New Haven Senior Companions are assigned to clients to ensure they eat properly, attend follow-up appointments with their physicians, and take their medications as prescribed in the 60 days after a hospitalization. To date, two Senior Companions have been assigned to clients, both of whom remained out of the hospital during the 60-day period following their hospitalization.

Social Innovation Fund

The Social Innovation Fund transforms lives and communities using limited federal investment as a catalyst to grow the impact of nonprofits with evidence of strong results. It harnesses the expertise of grantmaking intermediaries to identify, evaluate and expand effective nonprofits and engages funding partners to contribute nearly three dollars to every one federal dollar invested. As the Social Innovation Fund network grows programs that work in Connecticut, more people are able to overcome their most pressing challenges in the areas of economic opportunity, health, and youth development. The Social Innovation Fund is investing \$387,236 in expanding the impact of 2 nonprofits in Connecticut.

AmeriCorps in Connecticut



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	754	29
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	107	10

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Bridgeport	Habitat for Humanity Coastal Fairfield (July 11 - September 3, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - Coastal Fairfield County	6	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bridgeport	Habitat for Humanity Coastal Fairfield County (September 15 - November 4, 2014) Habitat for Humanity - Coastal Fairfield County	7	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Bridgeport	MYO (Current) Regional Youth/Adult Social Action Partnership	96	AmeriCorps State Formula
Bridgeport	Public Allies Connecticut (Current) Public Allies, Inc.	40	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Danbury	AmeriCorps Collegiate Development Program (Completed) Hispanic Center of Danbury, Inc.	24	AmeriCorps State Formula
Danbury	YVC of Western Connecticut (Current) Youth Volunteer Corps	3	AmeriCorps National
Deep River	Incarnation Center (March 8 - April 30, 2014) Incarnation Center	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Fairfield	Connecticut Campus Compact (Completed) Fairfield University	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Gales Ferry	United Way of Southeastern Connecticut Food Policy Council (Completed) United Way of Southeastern Connecticut	-	AmeriCorps VISTA
Hartford	Addressing Homelessness in Greater Hartford (Current) Journey Home, Inc.	2	AmeriCorps VISTA
Hartford	Green Crew AmeriCorps Program (Current) Knox, Inc.	15	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Hartford	Hartford Area HFH (Current) Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Hartford	Hartford Thrive! (Current) Hands On Hartford	2	AmeriCorps VISTA
Hartford	Notre Dame AmeriCorps - Hartford (Current) Notre Dame Mission Volunteers Program, Inc.	15	AmeriCorps National
Hartford	SCA Connecticut (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	1	AmeriCorps National
Hartford	YouthBuild Hartford, CT (Current) YouthBuild USA, Inc.	31	AmeriCorps National
Middletown	Community Health Center, Inc. (Current) National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.	15	AmeriCorps National
New Britain	Jumpstart New Britain at Central Connecticut State Uni (Current) Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.	40	AmeriCorps National
New Haven	Addressing the Multi-Level Needs of Homeless Veterans in CT (Current) Columbus House, Inc.	4	AmeriCorps VISTA
New Haven	Experience Corps (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	48	AmeriCorps State Formula
New Haven	Jumpstart New Haven at Southern Connecticut State University (Current) Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.	42	AmeriCorps National
New Haven	PAVE New Haven (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	17	AmeriCorps VISTA
New Haven	Teach For America - Connecticut (Current) Teach For America	203	AmeriCorps State Competitive
Rockfall	Connecticut Forest and Park Association (August 11 - September 3, 2014) Connecticut Forest and Park Association	9	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Stonington	NESS SEA AmeriCorps Program (Current) New England Science & Sailing Foundation	10	AmeriCorps State Formula
Storrs	CT Campus Compact (Current) University of Connecticut	10	AmeriCorps VISTA
Storrs	FoodCorps Connecticut (Current) FoodCorps, Inc.	15	AmeriCorps State Competitive

AmeriCorps in Connecticut



AMERICORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS/PROJECTS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	754	29
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	107	10

Primary City	Program/Project Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Storrs	Husky Sport (Current) Up2Us, Inc.	2	AmeriCorps National
Storrs	Jumpstart UConn. at University of Connecticut (Current) Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.	80	AmeriCorps National
Torrington	Torrington Area Health District MRS (July 11 - August 1, 2014) Torrington Area Health District-Medical Reserve Corps	8	AmeriCorps NCCC In-State Projects
Vernon	CT Food Justice Youth Corps VISTA Project (Current) University of Connecticut	9	AmeriCorps VISTA
Waterbury	CT AHEC Network AmeriCorps Program (Current) Northwestern Connecticut AHEC	14	AmeriCorps State Formula
Waterbury	Northwestern Connecticut AHEC, Inc. (Current) Northwestern Connecticut AHEC	1	AmeriCorps National
Waterbury	Waterbury AmeriCorps (Completed) Naugatuck Valley Community College	45	AmeriCorps State Formula
Waterbury	Youth Mental Health First Aid Corps (Current) Northwestern Connecticut AHEC	-	AmeriCorps National
Wethersfield	Community Health Center Assoc. of Connecticut (Current) National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.	18	AmeriCorps National
Wethersfield	SCA AmeriCorps National Direct Connecticut (Current) Student Conservation Association, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps National
Willimantic	Jumpstart Willimantic at Eastern CT State University (Current) Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.	20	AmeriCorps National
Willimantic	The Access Agency, Inc. (Completed) The Access Agency, Inc.	-	AmeriCorps VISTA

Notes: If there are programs with identical names in separate entries, they are different grants to the same organization. If no members are shown, either the grant is for planning or technical assistance, or enrollment data was not available at the time of printing.

The city column refers to the location of the sponsor organization. AmeriCorps members may be serving in other locations than the city listed.

Senior Corps in Connecticut



SENIOR CORPS TOTALS	PARTICIPANTS	PROGRAMS
CURRENT (as of March 12, 2015)	2,784	16
COMPLETED (within last 12 months)	0	0

Primary City	Program Name Sponsor Organization	Number of Participants	Program Type
Bridgeport	Bridgeport FGP (Current) Child and Family Guidance Center	160	Foster Grandparent Program
Bristol	Greater Bristol RSVP (Current) Bristol Community Organization	293	RSVP
Danbury	RSVP by CACD (Current) The Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut	103	RSVP
Danbury	The Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Inc. (Current) The Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut	102	RSVP
Hartford	Foster Grandparent Program NBBBS (Current) Nutmeg Big Brothers/Sisters Inc.	113	Foster Grandparent Program
Hartford	RSVP-Greater Hartford (Current) Community Renewal Team, Inc.	328	RSVP
New Britain	RSVP of Central Ct Inc (Current) RSVP of Central Connecticut Inc.	197	RSVP
New Haven	Experience Corps Greater New Haven (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	-	Senior Demonstration Program
New Haven	Foster Grandparent Program of Greater New Haven (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	101	Foster Grandparent Program
New Haven	Greater New Haven SCP (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	112	Senior Companion Program
New Haven	RSVP of South Central CT (Current) Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut	224	RSVP
New London	Windham/Tolland & Southern New London (Current) Thames Valley Council for Community Action	333	RSVP
Norwich	Eastern Ct FGP (Current) Thames Valley Council for Community Action	108	Foster Grandparent Program
Waterbury	Central Naugatuck Valley FGP (Current) New Opportunities, Inc.	118	Foster Grandparent Program
Waterbury	New Opportunities Inc. RSVP (Current) New Opportunities, Inc.	400	RSVP
Waterbury	New Opportunities, Inc. Senior Companion Program (Current) New Opportunities, Inc.	92	Senior Companion Program

Note: The city column refers to the location of sponsor organization. Volunteers may be serving in other locations than the city listed.

Nonprofit Subgrantees in Connecticut

Program HQ Location	Nonprofit Subgrantee Name <i>Intermediary</i>	Description
Hartford, CT	AIDS Connecticut Corporation for Supportive Housing	Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition's project, Connecticut Integrated Healthcare and Housing Neighborhoods, will create a health home outreach model linking primary care, behavioral healthcare and supportive housing.
Hartford, CT	Workforce Solutions Collaborative of Metro Hartford/United Way of Central and Northeastern CT Jobs for the Future, Inc./National Fund for Workforce Solutions	Workforce Solutions Collaborative of Metro Hartford is developing an educated, economically self-sufficient workforce that meets employer needs in advanced manufacturing, energy, utilities and health care.